

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 (CURRENTLY AMENDED):     A light-quantity adjusting apparatus comprising:

- a main body in which an opening is formed;
- a light-blocking member moved with respect to the opening to change an area of a light-passing aperture;
- an optical filter moved with respect to the opening to insert and remove with respect to a region opposed to the light-passing aperture;
- an actuator serving as a drive source; and
- a drive mechanism for driving the light-blocking member and the optical filter by drive force from the actuator,

wherein the drive mechanism has an operation range in which a displacement amount of the optical filter with respect to the opening is made larger than a displacement amount of the light-blocking member with respect to the opening, while the actuator operates by a predetermined amount, and

wherein the drive mechanism starts driving in a direction in which the optical filter is inserted into the region when the area of the light-passing aperture is decreased to a predetermined area by the movement of the light-blocking member.

2 (CANCELED):

3 (ORIGINAL):     A light-quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism has a first operation range in which the displacement amount of the optical filter is made larger than the displacement amount of the light-blocking member and a second

operation range in which the displacement amount of the optical filter is made smaller than that of the first operation range.

4 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): A light-quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the drive mechanism drives the optical filter on an insert side ~~than a predetermined position~~ with respect to the opening in the first operation range and drives the optical filter on a remove side ~~than the predetermined position~~ in the second operation range.

5 (CURRENTLY AMENDED): A light-quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism comprising:

a first drive member, driven by the actuator, for driving the light-blocking member; and

a holding member holding the optical filter; and

a second drive member, connected to the first drive member at a connection portion and driven by the first drive member, for driving the ~~optical filter~~ holding member,

wherein, on the connection portion, an interlocking mechanism is arranged, the interlocking mechanism includes a cam region in which the displacement amount of the optical filter with respect to the opening is made larger than the displacement amount of the light-blocking member with respect to the opening ,while the actuator operates by a predetermined amount.

6 (ORIGINAL): A light-quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in the optical filter, the width of a portion inserted into the light-passing region first is larger than the width of a portion inserted into the light-passing region second.

7 (ORIGINAL): An optical apparatus comprising:

a light-quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1; and

an image-taking optical system including the light-quantity adjusting apparatus.

8 (ORIGINAL):       A camera comprising:

                  a light-quantity adjusting apparatus according to claim 1;

                  an image-taking optical system including the light-quantity adjusting apparatus;

and

                  an image pickup element which photoelectrically converts an object image  
formed by the image-taking optical system into an electric signal.